156 FERC ¶ 61,065 FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

July 22, 2016

In Reply Refer To: New Hampshire Transmission, LLC Docket No. EL15-85-001

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP 1440 New York Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20005

Attention: Gerard A. Clark, Esq.

Attorney for New Hampshire Transmission, LLC

Dear Mr. Clark:

1. On May 24, 2016, New Hampshire Transmission, LLC filed an Offer of Settlement (Settlement) in the above-referenced proceeding pursuant to Rule 602 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The filing also included an Explanatory Statement. On June 13, 2016, Trial Staff filed comments recommending certification and approval of the Settlement. No other comments were filed. On June 30, 2016, the Presiding Administrative Law Judge certified the Settlement as uncontested.¹

¹ New Hampshire Transmission, LLC, 155 FERC ¶ 63,032 (2016) (Certification Order). The Commission instituted a Federal Power Act section 206 proceeding in Docket No. EL15-85-000 and set this matter for hearing and settlement judge proceedings (ISO New England Inc. Participating Transmission Owners Administrative Committee, 152 FERC ¶ 61,121 (2015)). On December 8, 2015, following an impasse in settlement negotiations, the Acting Chief Administrative Law Judge terminated settlement judge procedures in Docket No. EL15-85-000 and appointed a presiding judge in Docket No. EL15-85-001. While the hearing in this matter was pending, the parties and Trial Staff engaged in settlement negotiations and reached an agreement, resulting in the Offer of Settlement in issue here. Certification Order, 155 FERC ¶ 63,032 at PP 2-3.

- 2. With regard to the standard of review for future modifications, the Settlement provides at Section 4.6 that "upon FERC approval of this Settlement, any changes to the rates, terms and conditions stated herein shall be subject to the just and reasonable standard of review, not the more stringent public interest standard of review."²
- 3. The Settlement resolves all issues in dispute in these proceedings. The Settlement appears to be fair and reasonable and in the public interest, and is hereby approved. The Commission's approval of the Settlement does not constitute approval of, or precedent regarding, any principle or issue in these proceedings.
- 4. This letter order terminates Docket No. EL15-85-001.

By direction of the Commission.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr., Deputy Secretary.

cc: All Parties

² Settlement § 4.6.